

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 SAA-01 SES-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 EB-08 COME-00 AID-05 TRSE-00
OMB-01 /091 W

-----109249 162000Z /23

R 161829Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2707
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 CAIRO 19123

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP PGOV JA EG SA
SUBJECT: PRIMIN FUKUDA'S VISIT

SUMMARY: NEW JAPANESE AMBASSADOR KURODA, DURING COURTESY
CALL ON ME, EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT THAT SADAT WILL NOT
BE HERE ON SEPTEMBER 8-11 DATES PROPOSED FOR PRIMIN
FUKUDA'S VISIT. PRESIDENCY DIRECTOR HASSAN KAMEL HAD
INFORMED HIM SADAT NOT LIKELY TO RETURN TO CAIRO UNTIL
AROUND MID-SEPTEMBER. VP MUBARAK AND PRIMIN SALEM WOULD
BE PLEASED MEET WITH FUKUDA IF LATTER DECIDES TO COME,
BUT KURODA INDICATED FUKUDA'S MAIN PURPOSE IN VISITING
EGYPT WOULD BE TO MEET WITH SADAT. POSSIBILITY OF ALTERING
FUKUDA'S ITINERARY NOW BEING CONSIDERED IN TOKYO BUT
KURODA DOUBTFUL THIS WILL BE POSSIBLE. POSSIBILITY OF A
VISIT LATER THIS YEAR ALSO SUGGESTED BY EGYPTIANS. I
AFFIRMED THAT CAMP DAVID TALKS ARE OPEN-ENDED AND EMPHA-
SIZED THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO THEM. IN RESPONSE
KURODA'S COMMENT THAT INCREASED JAPANESE ECONOMIC CONTRI-
BUTION TO EGYPT WAS TO HAVE BEEN MADE KNOWN DURING FUKUDA
VISIT, I EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THIS HIGHER CONTRIBUTION
WOULD STILL BE MADE. KURODA STILL AWAITING INSTRUCTIONS
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FROM TOKYO ON FUKUDA'S PLANS. END SUMMARY.

1. NEW JAPANESE AMBASSADOR MIZUO KURODA PAID COURTESY
CALL TODAY. HE WAS IN STATE OF SOME DEPRESSION, HAVING
JUST BEEN TO SEE PRESIDENCY DIRECTOR HASSAN KAMEL ABOUT
JAPANESE PRIMIN FUKUDA'S UPCOMING TRIP AND HAVING BEEN
TOLD THAT THE PRESIDENT WILL NOT BE HERE.

2. JAPANESE HAD PROPOSED SEPTEMBER 8-11 DATES FOR FUKUDA VISIT. HASSAN KAMEL TOLD KURODA THAT, WHILE SADAT IS ANXIOUS TO MEET WITH FUKUDA, THE PRESIDENT EXPECTS NOT YET TO HAVE RETURNED FROM CAMP DAVID MEETING ON THE DATES INDICATED. KAMEL INDICATED THAT CAMP DAVID TALKS ARE OPEN-ENDED AND EXPRESSED PERSONAL VIEW THAT SADAT WILL NOT RETURN TO CAIRO UNTIL SEPTEMBER 14 OR EVEN AFTER. IF FUKUDA WOULD STILL LIKE TO COME ON THE PROPOSED DATES, HE WOULD BE WELCOME AND VP MUBARAK AND PRIMIN SALEM WOULD BE PLEASED MEET WITH HIM. KURODA SAID FUKUDA WANTS TO SEE SADAT, NOT HIS SUBORDINATES. HE ASKED WHAT I MIGHT BE ABLE TO TELL HIM ABOUT SADAT'S ITINERARY.

3. I AFFIRMED THE OPEN-ENDEDNESS OF THE CAMP DAVID TALKS. I SAID THAT WHILE NO ONE COULD BE SURE HOW LONG THEY WILL LAST, I PERSONALLY DOUBT THAT SADAT WILL BE BACK IN CAIRO MUCH BEFORE THE MIDDLE OF SEPTEMBER. I EMPHASIZED TO KURODA THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO THE CAMP DAVID MEETING AS EVIDENCED BY PRESIDENT CARTER'S PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT. LEST THERE BE ANY MISUNDERSTANDING, I MADE A POINT OF TELLING HIM THAT OUR INITIAL IDEA HAD BEEN A LATE AUGUST MEETING, BUT THAT WE WERE TOLD THIS WAS NOT CONVENIENT TO THE PRESIDENT BECAUSE OF RAMADAN. DATES IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE END OF RAMADAN HAD THEREUPON BEEN CHOSEN, SINCE, AS HE WOULD APPRECIATE, THERE IS REAL
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URGENCY IN GETTING ARAB/ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS BACK ON THE RAILS.

4. I ASKED IF FUKUDA'S ITINERARY MIGHT NOT BE RE-ARRANGED. KURODA SAID THIS IS BEING CONSIDERED IN TOKYO, BUT EXPRESSED PERSONAL DOUBT THAT IT WILL BE POSSIBLE. FUKUDA, HE NOTED IS SCHEDULED TO GO TO SAUDI ARABIA FOR ONE DAY ONLY ON SEPTEMBER 11 AND MUST BE PRESENT AT IMPORTANT DIET MEETING BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 15. IT MIGHT THEREFORE BE NECESSARY FOR FUKUDA TO DROP EGYPT FROM HIS PRESENT ITINERARY.

5. I SAID THAT THIS WOULD BE REGRETTABLE, SINCE WE HAD URGED THE JAPANESE TO CONSIDER PLAYING A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN EGYPT AND THE MIDDLE EAST AND WERE HOPEFUL THAT THE PRIMIN'S VISIT MIGHT PORTEND SUCH A ROLE. KURODA SAID THIS HAD ALSO BEEN HIS HOPE. HE REITERATED FUKUDA'S

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 CAIRO 19123

INTEREST IN MEETING WITH SADAT AND WITH SOME CHAGRIN INDICATED JAPANESE HAD DELIBERATELY NOT ANNOUNCED THEIR UPCOMING ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO EGYPT AT RECENT CONSUL-TATIVE GROUP MEETING IN ORDER TO ARM FUKUDA WITH THIS GOODIE. THERE HAD EVEN BEEN TALK OF RAISING THE COMING YEAR'S JAPANESE CONTRIBUTION FROM ROUGHLY \$150 MILLION TO \$175 MILLION. I EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THIS INCREASED ASSISTANCE WOULD BE OFFERED WHETHER OR NOT A SADAT/FUKUDA MEETING CAN BE ARRANGED AT THIS TIME.

6. KURODA SAID HASSAN KAMEL HAD SUGGESTED THAT IF A SADAT/FUKUDA MEETING CANNOT BE ARRANGED IN EARLY SEPTEMBER, A LATE SEPTEMBER-EARLY OCTOBER DATE WOULD BE AGREE-ABLE. PRIMIN SALEM, HOWEVER, HAD SAID THAT NEITHER SEPTEMBER NOR OCTOBER ARE CONVENIENT AND HAD SUGGESTED A NOVEMBER MEETING. SALEM DID NOT EXPLAIN WHY SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER TIMEFRAME NOT CONVENIENT.

7. KURODA IS CURRENTLY AWAITING INSTRUCTIONS FROM TOKYO ON FUKUDA'S PLANS. EILTS

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